

Message Text

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TAGS: AFSP, ABLD, UR, US

SUBJECT: KIEV PROPERTIES

1. SUMMARY - IN AN INFORMAL MEETING WITH SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE AUGUST 4, OSTENSIBLY FOR DISCUSSION OF DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON JULY 28 MEETING, PORTER LEARNED ONLY THROUGH READING TEXT THAT SOVIETS HAD TURNED DOWN COLD OUR PROPOSAL ON GORKIY, REITERATING ONLY THE AVAILABILITY OF THE SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS AND REAR ENTRANCE, " AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED." SOVIETS CONTINUED HARD LINE ON STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY, BUT CONFIRMED IN DRAFT TEXT THAT FRONT COURT WOULD BE PART OF CONSULATE PROPERTY AND INDICATED THAT WORK WAS PROCEEDING AT FLORENTSIYA. PORTER PASSED SOVIETS KNOOP'S SUGGESTED RECONFIGURATION ON FLORENTSIYA DOORWAYS AND CORRIDOR AS WELL AS STRELETSKAYA PLANS MINUS FIRST FLOOR AND INDICATED KNOOP VISIT SET FOR MID-AUGUST. LAVRUKHIN IS SAID TO HAVE RETURNED FROM VACATION. END SUMMARY.

2. FLORENTSI - MEETING WITH CHECHEL OF MFA PROTOCOL AND RUDENKO OF UPKK, PORTER PASSED COPIES OF KNOOP COUNTERPROPOSALS ON FLORENTSIYA CHANGES AND EXPLAINED KNOOP WOULD VISIT ABOUT AUGUST 15 TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR ALL THREE BUILDING AND SETTLE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS. SOVIETS WERE INFORMED KNOOP WOULD BRING GORKIY PLANS AND REQUEST WAS MADE FOR KNOOP TO MEET WITH APPROPRIATE SOVIET ENGINEERS/ ARCHITECTS. SOVIETS INFORMED THAT WORK HAD BEGUN AGAIN

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AT FLORENTSIYA. DISCUSSION DISGRESED TO PLACEMENT OF BATHTUBS,

WHICH SOVIETS SAID COULD NOT BE PLACED AS KNOOP INDICATED BECAUSE OF "TECHNICAL PROBLEMS." PORTER SUGGESTED KNOOP DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH SOVIET ENGINEERS/ARCHITECTS.

3. STRELETSKAYA - SOVIETS OFFERED NO NEW INFORMATION ON STRELETSKAYA 16 TERRITORY QUESTION AND DRAFT MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING (PROTOCOL) TOOK HARD LINE, REPEATING ONLY REFERENCE TO UNION MFA'S ("FINAL OFFER") STATEMENT OF JULY 7. DRAFT PROTOCOL DOES CONFIRM STRELETSKAYA 14 FRONT COURT AS PART OF OVERALL US TERRITORY AT STRELETSKAYA COMPLEX, THOUGH ADDING SOVIET REQUIREMENT FOR "DECORATIVE FENCE."

4. GROKHIY - AFTER WORKING THROUGH THE DRAFT PROTOCOL WITH SOVIETS, PORTER DISCOVERED, WITHOUT EXPLANATION FROM SOVIETS, PARAGRAPH STATING FLAT SOVIET TURNDOWN TO OUR REQUEST FOR USE FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS AND FRONT ENTRANCE AT GROKHIY. DRAFT STATEMENT STATES THAT SOVIETS "COULD ONLY PROPOSE" US USE OF SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS AND SEPARATE REAR ENTRANCE, AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED IN JUNE 3 AND 11 PROTOCOLS. PORTER PROTESTED MANNER OF CONVEYING DECISION AND EMPHASIZED THAT IN JULY 28 DISCUSSIONS SOVIET SIDE HAD NOT EVEN SUGGESTED NEGATIVE OUTCOME OF REQUEST, BUT RATHER EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF US CHANGE OF VIEWS. INSTEAD OF ATTEMPTING ANY EXPLANATION, SOVIETS THEN BOLDLY PROPOSED TO ADD AUGUST 4 DATE TO PROTOCOL, APPARENTLY AS INDICATION SOVIET RESPONSE HAD BEEN PRESENTED IN DISCUSSION. PORTER CALLED A HALT TO TALKS AT THIS POINT, PROPOSING TO REPORT DEVELOPMENT AND SEEK INSTRUCTIONS.

5. COMMENT - ANNOUNCED SOVIET "CONCESSIONS" - RETURN TO WORK AT FLORENTSIYA AND AGREEMENT TO STRELETSKAYA 14 FRONT YARD ARE ACTUALLY THE RESULT OF THEIR BACKING AWAY FROM POSITIONS THEY CREATED. LACK OF EXPLANATION FOR GROKHIY TURNDOWN AND HARD POSITIONS THERE, DESPITE OUR EXPECTATION OF SOVIET FLEXIBILITY, SUGGESTS PURE RETALIATION FOR OUR REFUSAL TO AGREE TO SOVIET "AMENDMENT" TO FLORENTSIYA CONTRACT. THIS AND CONTINUED HARD LINE ON STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY, WHERE PERHAPS 3 METER STRIP ON STRELETSKAYA 16 SIDE IS INVOLVED ARGUE FOR A CHANGE IN OUR NEGOTIATION TACTICS.

6. WHILE TALKS WITH SECOND LINE SOVIETS WERE USEFUL, THEY HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN BECOMING INCREASINGLY REPETITIOUS AND UNPRODUCTIVE. WITH LAVRUKHIN BACK IN KIEV AS OF AUGUST 4, WE PROPOSE TO ASK FOR DISCUSSIONS DIRECTLY WITH HIM NEXT WEEK. ADMIN COUNSELOR WILL STAND BY TO GO TO KIEV IF MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED.

7. SEPARATELY, AMBASSADOR PLANS UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO KIEV, TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10-11, TO INSPECT CONSULATE PROPERTIES. IN PLANNED CALL ON MAYOR GUSEV, AMBASSADOR WOULD REITERATE OUR

NEEDS IN KIEV AND PRESS FOR MAYOR'S SUPPORT TO RESOLVE
STRELETSKAYA AND GORKIY ISSUES.

8. IN TELEPHONE CALL TO ADMIN COUNSELOR AUGUST 6, V. SINITSIN
OF USA DIVISION CONVEYED KIEV AUTHORITIES "UNHAPPINESS" WITH
US DECISION TO REQUEST FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS AT GORKIY.
SINITSIN SAIF MFA SHARED THIS VIEW AND REMINDED US THAT WE HAD
AGREED TO SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS. IN LATER CONVERSATION,
SINITSIN TOLD PORTER THAT MISHKOV HAD INDEED ARRIVED BUT HAD
GONE OFF ON A MONTH'S LEAVE, AND NOT TO KIEV. HE HAD NO INFORMA-
TION ON MISHKOV'S FURTHER PLANS.
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